

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1275

By Boyd

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Deputy Commissioner and Chief of Staff Terry Ashe on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers in public safety; and

WHEREAS, Terry Ashe is one such estimable individual, who has devoted his life to ensuring the safety of his fellow Tennesseans; he currently serves as the Deputy Commissioner and Chief of Staff for the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security; and

WHEREAS, after forty years of service to the citizens of this State, Chief Ashe will be taking his much-deserved retirement this year, bringing to a close four decades of exceptional leadership; and

WHEREAS, as Deputy Commissioner and Chief of Staff for the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, he is the top advisor to Commissioner Jeff Long and oversees the daily operations of the department; and

WHEREAS, prior to serving in his current position, Chief Terry Ashe was Sheriff of Wilson County for thirty years, making him the longest-serving sheriff in the county's history and the second-longest-serving sheriff in Tennessee history; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as Wilson County Sheriff, he worked with numerous state and federal task forces involving public safety, drug investigations, fugitive apprehensions, highway safety, traffic enforcement, impaired driving, and violent crime investigations, including those in conjunction with the U.S. Marshals Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the

Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, the Tennessee Highway Patrol, the Tennessee Office of Homeland Security, and the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police; and

WHEREAS, Chief Ashe co-founded the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Drug Task Force, which was established in 1987; he was appointed by five Tennessee governors to serve on major law enforcement and public safety boards and commissions and was the first sheriff in the Tennessee Sheriffs' Association's history to be elected president in his first term; and

WHEREAS, a trusted leader in his field, Chief Terry Ashe served twenty-nine continuous years on the Tennessee Sheriffs' Association Board of Directors; he is currently Executive Director of the Tennessee Sheriffs' Association and has served on the National Sheriffs' Association Board of State Executive Directors; and

WHEREAS, Chief Ashe has a decorated military background, having served in the United States Army 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Infantry, including a tour of duty in the Republic of Vietnam, as well as with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Infantry in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and the Tennessee Army National Guard 3/109 Armor Tank Division; and

WHEREAS, for his distinguished military service, he was awarded three Purple Hearts and one Bronze Star, and in 1989, the 101<sup>st</sup> Congress honored him by passing a resolution praising his public service and military service and recognizing him as an American hero; and

WHEREAS, Chief Terry Ashe holds an associate degree in criminal justice from Middle Tennessee State University and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and psychology from the University of the State of New York; he has also graduated from numerous federal and state certified law enforcement training programs and earned the designation of Certified Public Administrator from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Chief Ashe is grateful for the love and companionship of his wife, Beth, and their three children and four grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, he is a faithful member of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, Chief Terry Ashe exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Chief Ashe has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the respect and admiration of his colleagues and the citizens of this State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Terry Ashe, Deputy Commissioner and Chief of Staff for the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, on his exemplary career and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness during his retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.